

The isolation and separation has produced other differences—viz. size of wings and bills, and even the colour is nowhere quite the same in isolated areas, though it closely corresponds to that of the surroundings. I hope to illustrate this more explicitly when I have been able to bring together in the Tring Museum series from various districts, with samples of the sand or soil they live on. In which way this assimilation to the soil takes away from the value of these subspecies, is incomprehensible to me. The local forms (subspecies) are of course the products of the country they inhabit, but we do not as a rule know the causes which have produced them. In many cases it is apparently nothing but isolation, and the isolated development of certain characters; in others apparently climate, amount of rainfall, food, etc. ; in others again the colour of the surroundings, and this is more especially the case in ground-birds, which are assimilated to the soil, rocks, steppe, sand, etc., which they inhabit. How this assimilation took place we do not, at present, fully understand, but we must carefully study and fix these varieties before we attempt to explain them.

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## DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW BIRDS DISCOVERED BY MR. O. T. BARON IN NORTHERN PERU.

By C. E. HELLMAYR.

IN Volume II. of the *Novit. Zool.*, pp. 1—22, the late Mr. Salvin wrote an account on the first collections made by Mr. Baron in Northern Peru, but about the further consignments no full account has as yet been published. Among the birds sent by Mr. Baron to the Tring Museum there are two more new forms, which may be described as follows:—

### *Thripophaga berlepschi* n. sp.

♂. Forehead and crown, as well as rump and upper tail-coverts, pale olivaceous brown, the latter slightly tinged with rufous; nape and back bright cinnamon-rufous, in strong contrast to the colour of the head and rump. Upper wing-coverts bright cinnamon-rufous, the middle and greater series blackish on the inner webs. Quills blackish, cinnamon-rufous on the outer webs, tertials on both webs; tail uniform cinnamon-rufous, a trifle paler than the back. Lores dirty whitish, cheeks and ear-coverts pale brown, faintly washed with cinnamon; round the eye, especially above, there is a slight whitish admixture; sides of the neck and chest bright cinnamon-rufous, throat and chin decidedly paler and more cinnamon-brownish; breast and abdomen pale olivaceous brown, the under tail-coverts pale fulvous brown; axillaries cinnamon-rufous, under wing-coverts ochraceous, quill lining rusty buff. Basal half of the upper mandible horn-coloured, apical half and the lower mandible whitish.

Wing 77; tail 87; tarsus 23; bill  $16\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

Type: ♂ ad. Leimabamba, N. Peru, 10,000 ft. elev., July 13th, 1894. O. T. Baron coll. "Eyes orange."

This fine new species is quite unlike any other member of the genus in

coloration. It needs only comparison with *T. fusciceps* Sel. from Bolivia, with which it agrees in having the forehead and crown uniform pale brown. It differs, however, from the Bolivian species by its much longer and rather narrower bill, bright cinnamon-rufous (not pale buffy brownish) back, chest and sides of the neck, considerably darker rufous colour on wings and tail, fulvous-brown crissum, etc. From *T. erythroptalma* (Wied) and *T. ferrugineigula* (Pelz.) (= *scateri* Berl.) it is at once known by its cinnamon-rufous back and by having no rufous whatever on the top of the head, etc.

I take great pleasure in naming this species after my friend Comte Berlepsch, to whom I owe so much of my knowledge of neotropical birds. The Count has seen the type, and agrees with me that it represents quite a distinct species.

Unfortunately, Mr. Baron sent only one specimen of this interesting form, which adds a new genus to the Peruvian avifauna.

### *Diglossa pectoralis uncinata* n. subsp.

Similar to *D. pectoralis pectoralis* Cab. from Central Peru, but at once known by lacking the milky white breast-band, and in having the chestnut of the crissum extended over the middle of the lower belly.

Upper surface, including wings and tail, glossy black, except rump and upper tail-coverts, which are slaty-grey. Sides of the head and throat deep black, but without any gloss; broad mystacial stripe white, across the foreneck a broad pale chestnut band; crissum and middle of the lower abdomen also pale chestnut, rest of underparts deep black. Axillaries and under wing-coverts white. Thighs black. Bill black.

Type in Mus. Tring: ♂ ad. Levanto, Northern Peru, 9000 ft. elev., November 13th, 1894. O. T. Baron coll.

Wing 71; tail 62; bill  $13\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

In addition to the type, there are two adults and one young in the Tring Museum, and the British Museum contains three specimens. All were collected by Mr. Baron in October and November 1894 near Levanto, and are exactly alike in the characters pointed out.

This new form might almost be considered a distinct species, but since it evidently represents *D. pectoralis* in North Peru, it is better treated as a subspecies.

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